

Remarks

The Office Communication mailed June 30, 2008 asked that the claims be amended to recite sequence identifiers. Claims 2, 4, and 6 are amended to recite the sequence identifiers of the formal sequence listing which correspond to nucleotide sequences present in GBS Subset 1 (which corresponds to Table 8), GBS Subset 2 (which corresponds to Table 10), and GBS Subset 3 (which corresponds to Table 9), respectively. See page 4, lines 2-7. Claim 10 is amended to recite sequence identifiers of the formal sequence listing which correspond to nucleotide sequences present in Tables 13-31 and 40-89.

The amendments do not add new matter. For example, before its amendment claim 4 recited "GBS Subset 2." On page 4, lines 4-5, the specification discloses that the genes in GBS Subset 2 are set forth in Table 10. Table 10 identifies these genes by ORF numbers, *e.g.*, "ORF00528." Table 32 correlates each ORF number with the SAG number for the protein the ORF encodes and indicates that ORF00528 corresponds to "SAG0466." The amino acid sequences for SAG0466 proteins from various GBS strains and nucleotide sequences encoding the proteins are disclosed in Table 13. These sequences are identified in Table 13 as SEQ ID NOS:1301-1316 and are identified in the formal sequence listing as SEQ ID NOS:1-16; SEQ ID NOS:1-16 are now recited in amended claim 4. Each of the formal sequence identifiers now recited in the amended claims was identified the same way.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

/Lisa M. Hemmendinger/

Dated: October 30, 2008

By: _____
Lisa M. Hemmendinger
Registration No. 42,653

Customer No. 22907